

WHERE ARE MISSING DAUGHTERS OF WEALTHY GEORGIA WOMAN?



Mrs. Eloise Nelms Dennis (left) and Miss Beatrice Nelms.

These two women, daughters of Mrs. John W. Nelms of Atlanta, Ga., have been missing since June 13, when Mrs. Dennis cashed a draft for \$1,450 in New Orleans. The belief is growing that Mrs. Dennis may have murdered her sister. The mother recently received a letter from New Orleans signed with Mrs. Dennis' name, in which the statement was made that Mrs. Dennis had killed her sister and was about to make way with a brother in California. Mrs. Nelms, who is well-to-do, has offered a reward of \$400 for the girls.

FILM MAKERS
FIGHT TAXES

German Makers Resist the Payment of Censors' Fees Which They Say Are Prohibitive in Berlin Police District

BERLIN, July 25.—A moving picture film war began in Berlin several days ago. On one side are the police authorities, and ranged in opposition to them is a triple alliance consisting of the home film producers, the representatives of foreign firms, and the directors of the cinema theatres. The cause of the declaration of war is the new scale of charges drawn up by the police for censoring films. So heavy are these new rates that the film-producing industry is threatened with extinction and the theatres with bankruptcy. The police decided to charge the following rates for the work of censoring films sent to them by the makers or their representatives—and no film can be shown before it has received the approval of censors. For films under 100 metres long, \$1.25; for longer films, \$1.75 for the first 100 metres and 62 cents for every additional 50 metres. Every film, too, must bear a 25 cent stamp, certifying that it has been duly passed by the censors.

These charges are equal to ten per cent of the cost of production, and are so unreasonable in the opinion of the interests concerned that all the German and foreign films have decided not to send any more films to the police bureau. The home-makers have appealed against the charges to the minister of the interior, while representatives of firms abroad—foreign films in Germany come from France, Italy and the United States—have placed their case before the ambassadors of their respective countries.

Cinema theatres are now in a cur-

ious predicament. They may not show uncensored pictures, and if the maker has not secured a certificate of approval the theatre director must do so.

One picture concern puts the new burden at \$50,000 per annum, while a smaller firm will have to find over \$3000 for the tax before the end of the year. "And," added a director, laconically, "we can't. Our profit last year was about \$7,000."

Another film factory manager said: "It is only recently that we had an amusement tax piled on to our industry. The new charges only apply to the police district of Berlin, and there are twenty-four other such authorities in Prussia alone. To increase the cost of production by ten per cent is bad enough, but suppose a few of those other police districts and one or two of the southern states follow Berlin's example. Film producing will become an expensive description of philanthropy."

Both sides are very determined, but there does not appear to be any means of attack on the police through the law courts. If the "Triple Alliance" cannot prevail by means of persuasion, then the police will win, and if they win there will be no work for the censors and, it is to be supposed, no salaries.

RAILWAY GAGE AS ARMY AID

Foreign Cars Cannot Run on Russian Tracks

There are several railway gages—or widths between the two rails of the track—in Europe, but in the United States and Canada it is possible for a truck to travel from Prince Rupert to New Orleans and from Quebec to San Francisco without hindrance. This was accomplished at great expenses some twenty or thirty years ago. In Europe the bulk of the mileage is the standard 4-foot 8-inch gage. There are, however, some other gages, especially the meter gage in France, Belgium, Italy, Spain and Portugal.

The most important exceptions are in Spain and Portugal, where they have nearly 10,000 miles of the 5-foot 6-inch gage, and in Russia and Finland, where there are thirty thousand miles of the 5-foot gage. This three and one-half inches difference from the standard was adopted by the

Russian government to avoid the dangers of invasion. The only connection between France and Spain is at Irun, on the Biscayan coast, but the Pyrenees are now being pierced at more than one place, and a question of conforming the gage of Spain and Portugal to that of the bulk of Europe has arisen—Engineering Record.

BUILDING THE ARK

(Genesis vi, 5-22)

Now God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and it repented God that he had made man. But Noah was a just man and perfect in his generation, and Noah walked with God.

And God said unto Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me; for the earth is filled with violence through them, and behold, I will destroy them with the earth. Make thee an ark of gopher wood; rooms shall thou make in the ark, and shalt pitch it within and without with pitch. A window shalt thou make to the ark; and the door of the ark shalt thou set in the side thereof; with lower, second and third stories shalt thou make it.

And behold I, even I, do bring a flood of waters upon the earth, to destroy all flesh; and everything that is in the earth shall die. But with thee I will establish my covenant; and thou shalt come into the ark, thou, and thy sons and thy wife, and thy sons' wives with thee.

And of every living thing, two of every sort shalt thou bring into the ark, to keep them alive with thee; they shall be male and female. Of fowls after their kind and of cattle and of every creeping thing of the earth, two of every sort shall come unto thee, to keep them alive.

And take thou unto thee of all food that is eaten; and it shall be food for thee and for them.

Thus did Noah, according to all that God commanded, so did he.

GOOD ADVICE

Dentist—Have you been anywhere else?

Patient—I went to see the chemist in our village.

Dentist—And what idiotic advice did he give you?

Patient—He told me to come and see you, sir.

FEW MORE MEMBERS ARE
NEEDED FOR LADIES BAND

Only a few members more are needed to make the Ladies Concert band of Phoenix a complete musical unit. Already there are twenty ambitious musically inclined ladies who have joined the organization and are practicing daily to make themselves proficient in the instruments of their choice, and Mrs. Williams the directress is sure she will be able to make a public appearance with the organization in the course of a few days more.

There is no question as to the competence of Mrs. Williams with an organization such as is proposed. A thorough musician herself she plays perfectly any instrument in a band, and has spent years both in acquiring her knowledge as well as successfully imparting it to others.

Her success so far with the proposition in Phoenix has been such as to call forth many words of commendation. The practices of the new organization have been eye openers to those who have been privileged to hear them. Phoenix will be still further on the musical map when the work is perfected here. There are a few vacancies in the band to be filled and the lady directress is anxious to fill them up as soon as possible so as not to delay the game.

MURDERS AND PUBLIC OPINION

An Excess of Indignation May Hurt the Cause of Justice

Public feeling will be relieved by the news that counsel for the crown, acting on the suggestion of Justice Atkin, yesterday withdrew the charge made against John Starfield of murdering his son in a railway train on January 8. It is doubtful whether on the evidence the accused ought ever to have been to trial. The case will serve, however, in many respects to point its own moral.

Several murders of recent years have presented similar difficulties to the police, and it is not surprising that thousands of persons with a keen sense of justice and a dislike of unsolved mysteries should form their own theories and indulge their own speculations. It is a wholesome sign of a proper public sentiment, so long as that sentiment is kept within reasonable bounds. The danger is of hindering instead of assisting the course of justice. Indignation has been stirred, no doubt, by the cumulative effect of a number of notable crimes for which no convictions have been obtained.

In many instances the press gives substantial aid to the police, and thus helps materially toward a just conviction where, as in most train murders, only circumstantial evidence is available. Yet, valuable as this assistance may be, it has its dangers and one of those dangers was exemplified in the Starfield case. When the horror of a murder sinks into the minds of persons with a nervous temperament, they are apt hastily to respond to calls for evidence made through the newspapers. For the moment their loathing of the crime and their instinct for the protection of society overweigh their reason; they volunteer to become witnesses of occurrences which are distorted, if not wholly invented by their imagination.

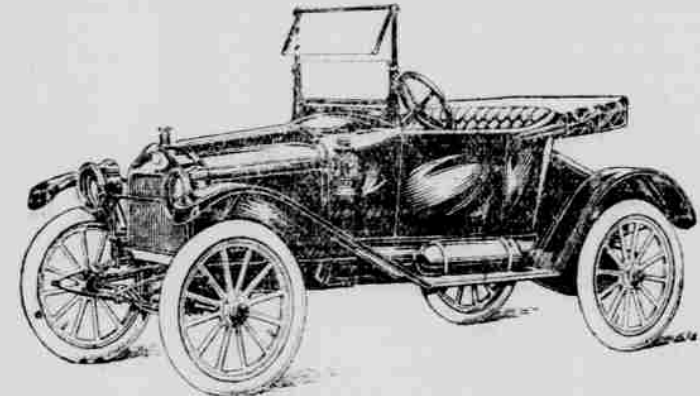
When, about the middle of January, no clue had been found to the murderer of the boy Starfield, theory after theory was sent to Scotland yard by amateur detectives, and any man who was seen with a boy on the evening of January 8 was in peril of becoming the victim of a hue-and-cry. When at last the case came for trial at the central criminal court the prosecution was constrained to rely for identification of the prisoner on three witnesses. Two of these admitted that they never had seen the prisoner before the day of the crime, and one of them confessed to having had no more than a passing glimpse of him on that day. The evidence of all three was out of harmony on various points. Each spoke of a man who had been wearing a different kind of hat, and each swore to having seen him at places which could not be reconciled with any plausible set of circumstances. There will be general agreement with the judge's condemnation of the violation in the Starfield case of all the principles on which such a corner's inquest should be conducted. The sending of typewritten copies of their depositions to the witnesses for their signature in various parts of London, and the acceptance of alterations made in those depositions in the witnesses' own homes, disclose a form of procedure which Justice Atkin was justified in describing as a mockery. Nothing less conducive to the administration of justice could be conceived.—London Times.

NAVIGATION ON RIVER RHONE

It has been at various times proposed to resume the service of passenger boats on the River Rhone between the cities of Lyon and Avignon, which was discontinued in 1902, but it was not until the present month (June), however, that the service was re-established. The occasion taken for the resumption was the opening of the International Urban Exposition of Lyon, and the steamer the Ville de Lyon started from the exposition grounds on its initial trip.

The boat is an up-to-date river steamer, side wheel, 184 feet long, and draws 3.92 feet of water. It is fitted out with every modern convenience and has a capacity of over 1000 passengers. It furnishes a bi-weekly service between the two cities, covering the distance from Lyon to Avignon, 143 miles, in 9½ hours. The current of the Rhone is so rapid that it requires twenty-four hours to make the return trip. It is not proposed to carry freight, as there is already a freight service in operation on the river. The purpose is simply to maintain a passenger service during the summer season. The scenery between the cities is picturesque.—Consular Report.

ANNOUNCEMENT!

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FALL AND WINTER STYLES FOR MEN WILL DEMAND THE SLENDER
FIGURE; TAILORS PLACE ALL THE BLAME ON THE NEW DANCES

At the convention of the National Association of Clothiers and Tailors at Atlantic City it was agreed that next season's male garb should be tighter. The fact has naturally aroused some little indignation. The tailors declare that the tango and other new dances are the cause.

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